

Amendments To The Drawings:

The attached drawing sheets include changes to FIGS. 1-2. These sheets contain corrections shown in red for the examiner's approval and are requested to replace the original sheet of FIGS. 1-2.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet of FIGS. 1-2

Annotated Sheet Showing Changes of FIGS. 1-2

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 5, 7-9 and 10 are pending before this amendment. By the present amendment, none of the claims are canceled without prejudice; none of the claims are amended; and no new claims are added. No new matter has been added.

In the office action (page 2), the drawings stand under 37 CFR 1.121(d) as they should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art--.

In response the Applicant has subsequently amended FIGs. 1-2 to include the legend --Prior Art-- to remove the basis for this objection. Therefore, the examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw this objection to the drawings.

In the office action (page 3), claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,765,928 (Sethuram) in view of U.S. Publication No. 2004/0208554 (Wakai).

The Applicant however respectfully disagrees, at least because the limitations “the SDH tributary processing unit and the at least two service processing units are disposed on one board” and “the tributary module further includes a multiple service cross processing unit which is used to implement interconnection among different services, each service processing unit being connected to a local interface through the multiple service cross processing unit” in claim 1 are neither disclosed nor taught by Wakai et al.

Specifically, the Examiner alleges that Wakai et al. teach the SDH tributary processing unit and the at least two service processing units are disposed on one board, because in Fig. 7, plurality of processing units 233 and multiplexer/demultiplexer 232/231 are disposed on one interface 230. It seems that the Examiner considers the plurality of processing units 233 disclosed by Wakai et al. equivalent to the at least two service processing units recited in claim 1 of the present application, and the

multiplexer/demultiplexer 232/231 equivalent to the SDH tributary processing unit.

However, as limited in claim 1 of the present application, the SDH tributary processing unit separates out the service signals corresponding to different service processing units, according to different time slots corresponding to the SDH signals of different services. One skilled in the art will recognize that the SDH tributary processing unit and the at least two service processing units are disposed to process different service signals corresponding to different services respectively, as can be further derived from the limitation regarding the multiple service cross processing unit in claim 1, i.e. it is used to implement interconnection among different services.

In sharp contrast, neither the plurality of processing units 233 nor the multiplexer/demultiplexer 232/231 is disclosed or taught by Wakai et al. to be able to process different services. In fact, as can be derived from paragraphs [0081] to [0086] of Wakai et al., all the components of the IP packet router 23, including the plurality of processing units 233 and the multiplexer/demultiplexer 232/231, are disposed to process only one service, i.e. IP packet service.

Moreover, as can be recognized by one skilled in the art, the high-speed packet line interface 230 including the plurality of processing units 233 and the multiplexer/demultiplexer 232/231 as mentioned by the Examiner may be considered equivalent to a line module as shown in Fig. 3 of the present application in the case of one single service. In other words, the high-speed packet line interface 230 is completely different from the tributary module as claimed in claim 1 of the present application, and the constitution of the tributary module as claimed in claim 1 of the present application is not disclosed or taught by Wakai et al. Accordingly, the plurality of processing units 233 and the multiplexer/demultiplexer 232/231 should not be compared with the at least two service processing units and the SDH tributary processing unit as limited in claim 1 of the present application to comment on the obviousness or non-obviousness of the solution as claimed in claim 1.

Therefore, it can be concluded that Wakai et al. do not disclose or teach the limitation "the SDH tributary processing unit and the at least two service processing

units are disposed on one board” in claim 1 of the present application.

In addition, the Examiner considers the switch 235 shown in Fig. 7 of Wakai et al. equivalent to the multiple service cross processing unit as limited in claim 1 of the present application.

However, as discussed above, the constitution of the tributary module as claimed in claim 1 of the present application is not disclosed or taught by Wakai et al. Accordingly, the multiple service cross processing unit included in the tributary module is not disclosed or taught by Wakai et al.

Moreover, as limited in claim 1 of the present application, the multiple service cross processing unit is used to implement interconnection among different services. In sharp contrast, as discussed above, all the components of the IP packet router 23 disclosed by Wakai et al. are disposed to process only one service, i.e. IP packet service. Accordingly, the packet switch 235 included in the IP packet router 23 is disposed to process only one service, i.e. IP packet service.

Still moreover, as can be recognized by one skilled in the art, the packet switch 235 as mentioned by the Examiner may be considered equivalent to the cross module as shown in Fig. 3 of the present application in the case of one single service. In other words, the packet switch 235 is completely different from the multiple service cross processing unit as limited in claim 1 of the present application.

Therefore, it can be concluded that Wakai et al. do not disclose or teach the limitation “the multiple service cross processing unit which is used to implement interconnection among different services” in claim 1 of the present application.

Finally, the Examiner alleges that Wakai et al. teach each service processing unit being connected to a local interface through the multiple service cross processing unit, because in Fig. 7, each processing unit 233 is connected to packet line interfaces 234 thru the switch 235.

As discussed above, the processing unit 233 disclosed by Wakai et al. should not

be considered equivalent to the service processing unit as limited in claim 1 of the present application, and the switch 235 disclosed by Wakai et al. should not be considered equivalent to the multiple service cross processing unit as limited in claim 1 of the present application. Therefore, it can be concluded that Wakai et al. do not disclose or teach the limitation "each service processing unit being connected to a local interface through the multiple service cross processing unit" in claim 1 of the present application.

Based on the above, Applicant respectfully submits that the subject matter of claim 1 is non-obvious and thus patentable over Sethuram et al. in view of Wakai et al.

In the office action (page 5), claims 5 and 6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sethuram, in view Wakai, in further view of U.S. Patent No. 6,798,779 (Shimbashi).

The Applicant respectfully disagrees, at least because the limitations "the SDH tributary processing unit and the at least two service processing units are disposed on one board" and "the tributary module further includes a multiple service cross processing unit which is used to implement interconnection among different services, each service processing unit being connected to a local interface through the multiple service cross processing unit" in claim 1 are neither disclosed nor taught by Wakai et al., the subject matter of claim 5 that is dependent from claim 1 is non-obvious and thus patentable over Sethuram et al. in view of Wakai et al. and further in view of Shimbashi et al.

Similarly, the subject matter of claim 6 that is dependent from claim 5 and thus claim 1 is non-obvious and thus patentable over Sethuram et al. in view of Wakai et al. and further in view of Shimbashi et al.

In the office action (page 6), claims 7, 9 and 10 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sethuram, in view of Shimbashi and Wakai.

The Applicant respectfully disagrees for the similar reasons to those presented above with respect to claim 1, the subject matter of claim 7 that includes limitations corresponding to those in claim 1 is non-obvious and thus patentable over Sethuram et al. in view of Shimbashi et al. and further in view of Wakai et al.

The subject matter of dependent claims 9 and 10 is also non-obvious and thus patentable over Sethuram et al. in view of Shimbashi et al. and further in view of Wakai et al. relying at least upon their dependencies from claim 7.

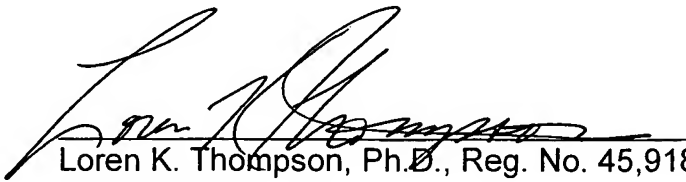
In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested.

For the reasons set forth above, the applicants respectfully submit that claims 1, 5, 7-9 and 10, now pending in this application, are in condition for allowance over the cited references. Accordingly, the applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and earnestly solicit an indication of allowable subject matter.

This amendment is considered to be responsive to all points raised in the office action. Should the examiner have any remaining questions or concerns, the examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney by telephone to expeditiously resolve such concerns.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: March 30, 2009



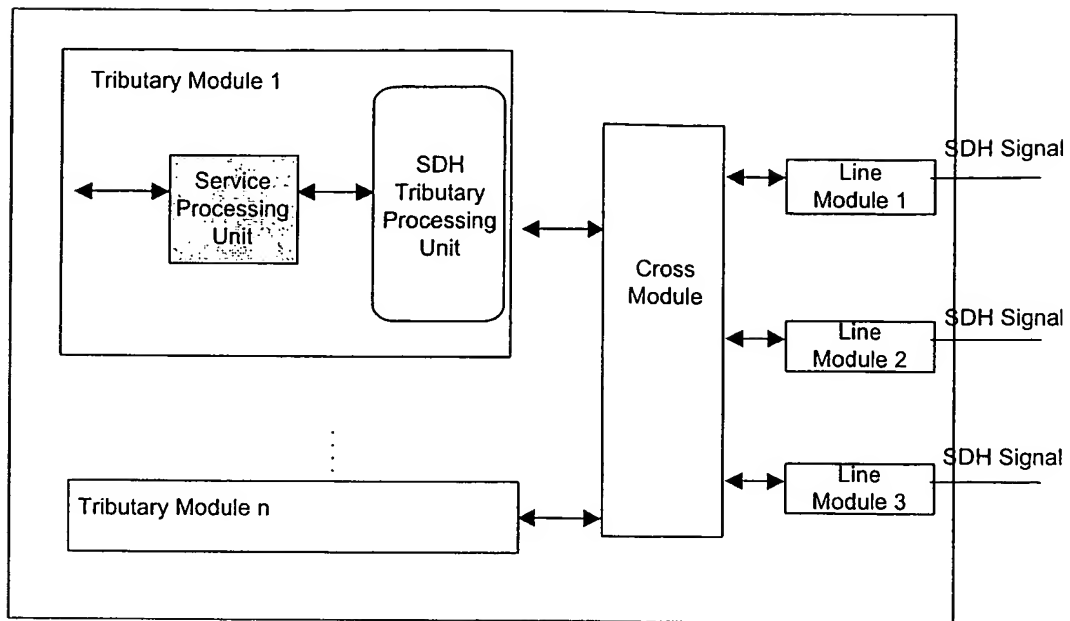
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APPENDIX OF ATTACHMENTS

**Replacement Sheets of FIGS. 1-2
(a total of 1 sheets of drawings)**

and

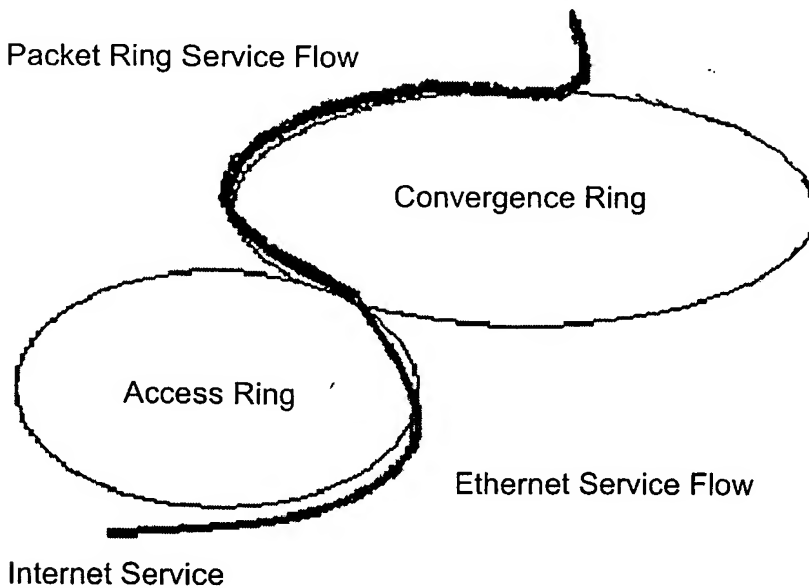
**Annotated Sheets Showing Changes of FIGS. 1-2
(a total of 1 sheets of drawings)**



(PRIOR ART)

Fig. 1

Resilient Packet Ring Service Flow



(PRIOR ART)

Fig. 2